

PRESS RELEASE

**Virginia Sheriffs' Association
701 East Franklin Street, Suite 706
Richmond, VA 23219-2512**

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

**John W. Jones, Executive Director
Virginia Sheriffs' Association
Phone: 804-225-7152
Fax: 804-225-7162**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Virginia Sheriffs Recognize Governor McDonnell

Richmond, Virginia, September 26, 2012 – Virginia sheriffs recognize Governor McDonnell for his support of public safety. Today, the Virginia Sheriffs' Association (VSA) met with and made Governor McDonnell an "Honorary Sheriff" and expressed their appreciation for Governor McDonnell's commitment to public safety during his tenure as governor. Attending the ceremony were: Sheriff John "Jack" Weisenburger, City of Bristol, 1st Vice President of the VSA; Sheriff Thomas D. Jones, Charlotte County; Sheriff Charles E. Jett, Stafford County; Sheriff Kenneth W. "Ken" Stolle, City of Virginia Beach; Sheriff J.D. Diggs, York County – Poquoson, Immediate Past President of the VSA and John W. Jones, Executive Director of VSA. The sheriffs recognize the governor's commitment to public safety and specifically called attention to a number of bills that have been passed by the Virginia General Assembly.

The Association chose to recognize Governor McDonnell as an "Honorary Sheriff" because of his support for public safety. "Governor McDonnell's consistent support during his term has not gone unnoticed, he is an advocate for public safety, supporting crime victims, law enforcement officers and the rule of law," said John W. Jones, Executive Director, of the Virginia Sheriffs' Association. During the 2012 session of the General Assembly the Governor supported legislation to create a law enforcement officer's memorial on the grounds of the state capitol, supported funding for public safety agencies and supported legislation enabling the continued use of GPS tracking systems during criminal investigations.

The award was presented by the Association leadership during a ceremony at the Governor's Office on September 26, 2012.

####